SPLENDID THE ELEANOR STUART

depression-consequent upon climate over-careful script: and the dear girl I left behind me:

and this much is temptation to quit Bustorah instantly-consequent upon a lust to be something better than a mediocre medical man under contract to British Government, rushed out to a green pool with scum on it, merely because a clerk in the Foreign Office happened to notice its name on the map." The place of the pool is called Madgeldar and gives on the wilderness, being policed by lions and furtively patrolled by flies who are dedicated to the Devil's secret service, spreading disease from eye to eye and mouth to mouth: they are sentinels of sorrow upon the bronze faces of Arab children. But one learns nothing of Madgeldar from the maps, except that it is almost on the southern line of Somaliland in East Africa; bar one map. printed at Milan, which says on its ample margin, "Mail service via Aden

ever God's mercy that heads wins in ceased to believe in happiness." such toss-ups with Destiny when alco- He heard the slap of naked, native hard to keep a good man down.

Bond Street, London, W. He Arabic: kissed these letters when they camelooking-and when he had finished is here nowreading them he put his red, Scotch head in his hands and cursed with ar- her in here." dor. Curses and prayers are twin blurred even in the clear light of his acy dictates, and are buried in shallow

ated emptiness. "God," he cried, in little bed while his blue eyes filled his intolerable loneliness, "if it breaks painfully. me. I've got to get away!"

which weaves Occident and Orient to- sight of him. called his here?" boy. Bultak, to go for his letters. "Go you, Bultak," he called in Arabic, "and brilliant vacancy outside a decently much elated at its contents. curtained window. He dethroned a "We shall be almost rich," she said black ant on the summit of his jam thoughtfully, "for Aunt Phœbe is dead, pot and leaned back in his chair, and it was the first fruits of her legacy dreaming of power and one woman's which paid my fare out here." kindness and wondering if either Galvin, M.D., looked at her with a great before he opened home letters here! and now he snatched at the note which he felt most threatening of harm, and tle echo of satisfaction. of Great Britain's official envelope for Foreign Office Mail.

MAGNUS GA VIN, Esq., M.D." the letter ran. "Sin: As a consequence of territorial readjustment for purposes you Commissioner for the Bustorah District; from the Italian boundary on the north to the Zingua-Zingua River on the south, from Tipi as a western border to Mageldar and the littoral. Your salary is £1,000, with house privileges and traveling allowance, and the maintenance of a household staff. We suggest Tipi as your residence. The post of District. Surgeon which you now hold is deemed unnecessary and is herewith abolished. Permission is granted you, however, to practise your medical profession as you think fit. I have the honor to be.

"Your obedient, humble servant,

"Sybils I've a house as well as a heart to offer you now, and a thousand pounds a year. For today-some Evangelic impulse having stirred the earthly powers-I've been made Commissioner of this backwater of barbarism. Will you come out to me instanter? I think you will, I hope you willno, I believe you will. Tipi is a better place than this in climate and-Inshallah! we shall dwell

"GALVIN, M.D.

"N. B. I love you. "P. S. If you start on receipt of this you'll be arriving April first, but don't deal me an April Fool's Paradise. I want all the assurances you can send me of good faith!"

Still dazed at the fulfillment of his dream, he touched Sybil's unopened letter because she had once touched it. Galvin, M.D., never anticipated mail; and gave a free rein to all hopes his his whole trouble was that he never common sense had held so long in anticipated anything. He was, extrin- check. "It's a wonderful thing," he sically, a tragedy: i.e. a first-rate mind said, "that good fortune leaps into a with fifth-rate opportunities, but it is man's life at one bound. I had almost

hel is not playing the game. Also it feet, hurrying along his tiled corridor. is well to remember that whale's dic- A young Somali stood in the arch of tum as he disgorged Jonah, for it is his doorway, bearing himself insolently as Somalis do. He was slim and The mail brought him, as a rule, a taut as a fiddle-string, and was fingerletter from Sybil Rae, who was the ing his prayer beads busily with salmanager of the Alexandra Hat Shop, low hands. Interrupting his devotions, "Every Lady's Every Wish Antici- he spoke with a thick voice in vile

"A lady, an English lady, comes from if his sly Somali servants weren't the steamer to speak with you. She

Bultak put his beads about his arm ache of personal failure throbbed on, twenty-six months in Madgeldar and gobbling you up," she said. and always Sybil receded, home grew had seen but one woman, a nun, within the walled city. But even a missionary life's desire. The Arabs about him is a boon to a lonely man, and Galvin would have been surgical opportunities hastened to dress, fluttering at the had not their religion forbidden the thought of meeting a European woman, knife's healing uses, and sons of the even of the somewhat formidable miswilderness know such a lot of pre- sionary type which invades East Afventive medicine that other than surgi- rica. That his visitor could be anycal emergencies do not arise except thing but a missionary never dawned with women; and, bien entendu, these upon him. He already saw her, with women of emergencies do not arise his mind's eye, her face wet from the either, but die without doctors as privexertions of a grilling walk from the shore, her pince-nez slipping from a nose not classic, but her sweet English And he had never anticipated a mail voice and stereotyped piety echoes of less than on the day when his oppor- the land that he loved, the country tunity arrived by it. Dawn had broken from which his chance to serve had over the tangled green and waving come. He heard the rustle of her gown palms, bent in a sand-laden breeze as she entered the next room quietly from the Somali desert. Day meant and all his memories of Sybil, all his nothing but glare to him now as he heated hopes of her, flowed through stood in his pajamas on the housetop him at the rippling noise of a silken and looked into the swiftly illumin- skirt. He sat down on a disordered

"I never knew I had noticed the rus-As his eyes fell again to the heavy tle of women's skirts," Galvin said steely sea whose breakers threw out faintly, brushing his hair arduously saw but one other." Barawa arrived unexpectedly from smooth, and he wore his very best Mogdesha and dropped anchor with a pumps—the left one was a little eaten rattle in the harbor he wished he had by white ants-and then he stood in This sight of the little steamer, who sobbed with excitement at the

gether into the shadowed pattern of "Sybil!" he cried, as if she had been Galvin to a a half-mile from him, "how came you

Sybil Rae and Galvin, M.D., were estown, while you still sleep like a dead of separation and the fact of reunion, elephant." Then, half as a memorial she told how she came to Madgeldar in li'e, he said the Lord's Prayer, nor did she dwell upon the agonies of standing and in a loud whisper. His nocturnal transhipment. She had read coffee and two impeccable eggs were his open letter to her before he had dispatched with his tired eyes on the emerged from his bedroom and was

came to him-one from the Foreign -or you might have cabled Aden and ride?" Office and the other from Sybil Rae, they could have posted me the cable His mood of apprehension was ever from there-but never mind, you're I've never had the chance.'

"I'm here," she answered with a lit

of you alone with Somali boatment."

ic with me," she declared quickly. "What a knight!-er-if I had but mind.

lots about such a nice missionary," she

sionary," he said slowly, "and you did camels."

fore he eats a man-that's one advan- content.

Galvin's diplomatic opportunity came a smile woke in it and after a few mo- he'd come like a shot-at this date he sun. Galvin read Sybil's letter aloud had obtruded himself as an object to owed comfort to him. He pointed with she held something and dragged it to him after days of depression and ments of bewildered joy, he drew to- is at the N'gambo of Bandi with speci- to her and they smiled at the an- be recorded.

a conjuror's gesture to a well, placed sharply away, when her hand was temptation—not that depression is not ward him an ornate and massive inkmens of bats and moths and their color, becomon the side of a sudden acclivity; a caught in a jaw swiftly closed, and she always temptation. But Galvin, M.D., pot and a rusty, spluttering pen. With- Well, because I'm Commissioner of a diate departure for the East. They ing a gray and dusty purple, when the wide expanse of hoof-trodden dust be- sent out one cry of absolute agony. could divide his state of mind down out a moment's consideration he wrote tented community you won't have to were decorously disposed in wicker sun left the sky abruptly and only a fore it, and two rough-hewn, commem- "He has bitten my hand," she walled the middle and say: "This much is on a bit of note paper in his pedantic, establish a residence out here to get armchairs, in full sight of all passers, golden line hung on in the western orative pilars before its wide, walled when she could speak, pressing herself married, any more than a lion does be- talking over all things in their heart's horizon like a postscript to the bright- pool. On a crosbeam, resting on these to Galvin's side. ness that was gone. Enjoyment seemed square columns, were these words in "I know," he answered, "poor Sybil, After three, when their heavy lunch- to leap from the earth and descend the Mullah's hybrid Arabic: "What dear girl, suck at it for God's sake, for She laughed then a whole-souled peal con had been consumed and their mid- from the sky, for a tyrant had left the father closes his door—even at night— we must see this through. It's the bigof sound English laughter the like of day , rests taken, three humpnosed, world in the sun's passing, almost as to his sons? or which father's heart- gest day's work we have ever seen. which he hadn't heard in-literally- humpbacked camels passed the dwell- Baltuk folded away Sybil's shawl of even in sleep-but pities them?" This Come, the chains are off; we must get was a recruiting station of Islam, out of this quickly." where men are won to war by words He groaned when he saw her hand. of fervent tenderness.

Baltuk tapped the knees of his camel on the dusty space before the pool, and the beasts knelt, athirst and doctle. the beasts kneit, athirst and doctie.

Sybil and Galvin dismounted, stiff and said faintly, "I am sorry, it was purely involuntary." He rose and fumbled at "Over the hill to the right," he said, in numbed hand, up the hill rosetted moonlight also had burst. with low scrub, drinking from their flasks as they gained a painfully-won cried. resting place on the summit of a sudor base a city of huts rested, like a pess, suffering but alert. dirty crescent of kennels, under the bright full moon. Beyond this make- cent seemed swiftly steep in its downshift city tom-toms beat and dancers ward repassing, but they avoided the whirled amid the premeditated plenty cliff beside which the roofless bouse of a feast. The great round moon impersonally and dispassionately lighted each spare, active figure, until it stood out from the blackness of its back. the desert stretched, mute, empty of "It can't be a religious feast," Gal-

calendar and there isn't the pretext stretching in sharp lines, like so many for a 'pigeon-wing' in all this empty arrows fallen from a quiver. It seemed He strode on down-hill. They came suddenly on a precinct where camels were tied to pegs driven deep in the earth. Their legs were fastened ing her as it came and went. Fedder together with cruel thongs and there were hordes of them thus picketed on that hillside; they raised their ugly seeming like snakes about to bite poisonously. It was hard to tread one's of an odorous locust tree, taking his way among them, but Galvin pushed watch from his wrist where he wore it his road through long aisles of muzzles unsymmetrically chewing, coming out within his tunic. at the far end of the crescent formed sitting down on a stone, still radiating which had been stuffed into his mouth Sybil's hand and his breath at the one moment, while he considered his next step. A roofless stone house yawned handkerchief to wipe away the blood. skyward just at their feet, and not ten yards below them-ten yards which stretched in sheer clay exuding damp

steep to the town troughs. "Sybil," Galvin commanded, "stay will stay here." looked to you for the clergyman. I upright, and screamed curses on him The camels called to one another as here. More people than Bandi conshould like awfully to be married to- in his own name and the Prophet's, they set foot in the green bunch-grass tains ordinarily are feasting and danc-

"Don't be long," she answered rather gently, "a camel for Fedder. I couldn't faintly as he started down the sheer "That's the rub," Galvin said kneeling brute, who rose, flirting a darkness, but an outline of billows and and with his lingering handclasp came thoughtfully. "You're the only white flail-like caudal appendage and adding tightly crimped ripples quite visible in the sense of parting; the night seemed woman in Madgeldar. I've been here his noises to the stress of departure, the light of a round moon, shining to close over her and choke her with six and twenty months and I never At first their camels rocked nauseat- above in a clump of weird and leafless its blackness. She saw him plunge they saw Madgeldar's walls white in ingly, but they presently settled into trees at the plateau's edge. Their anj. downward into the town's nether dark-They sat staring at one another eye the defined rhythm of ships of the des- mais traveled so much faster now that ness and she knew that riot was white too, and livid with fatigue, and their own complaint on the shore's with a pair of military brushes. His to eye and without laughter. "At least ert, and Sybil smiled whenever her speech was an effort, and with the cool- abroad there, or some evil, patent to racked with the bitter pains of such a to eye and without laughter. "At least ert, and Sybil smiled whenever her speech was an effort, and with the cool- abroad there, or some evil, patent to racked with the bitter pains of such a to eye and without laughter. "At least ert, and Sybil smiled whenever her speech was an effort, and with the bitter pains of such a pair of military brushes. His there's no one to say catty things," mind was released from the adverse ness of the night came a great desire his decivilized faculties and undiscern-journey. she said, with scared eyes and a falter- sensations of nausea, glare, and chafed not to molest its quiet; Sybil looked ible to hers. It was awful to be alone ing voice, while a cheap clock ticked knees-not to dwell too long on hands reverently at the thickening array of there where a moment before it had der shouted, for their pace was still

seemed to be a dead animal. But pres-

"It's the only thing to do," he an- ing, but she laughed as she called her- Christmas ballad, "We three Kings of After those second sounds he kicked two prominent Arabs to be witnesses swered slowly; "it's perfectly safe you self an immigrant and declared herself Orient are," stimulated by a sweet and at a wooden door in the least lighted to the marriage. service to his mother, half as a petition very succinctly in the French mail to know, for we don't even tap the Mul- able to endure the country of her sudden wind, which had gathered a corner of the roofless building, and its Galvin had hard work prying plaster for mitigation of his unspeakable lot Aden and the Barawa to Madgeldar, lah's country-yes, that same Mad choice. Sometimes Galvin gave her a burden of perfume in faraway locust boards fell away from their fastenings of Paris away from Fedder's teeth, but Mullah of the morning papers at sop of lint, wet with diluted myrrh, groves to blow upon one pair of white, and opened a way out; she called to at last they were all three bathed and which she held in her mouth lovingly girlish cheeks, in all its African jour- him and he called to her, "Hush!"- dressed, fed and festive. It was then "It will be less of a fag than getting while he cautioned her not to swallow ney. There was in this stillness, this the hardest command a man may give that Fedder told them of his capture, married with bridesmaids, and licen- it, and when at last she cast the thing perfumed peace no atmosphere of his anxious helpmeet. He left the with the hand of each deliverer clasped to the desert's floor, the once saturated money, no environment of clothes; the house then and stole along the shad- close in his. "In this letter," Galvin continued wad grown dry as powder in her burn- murk and crowd of London was but a owed side of a dusty track until he "I was coming toward Bandi with no thoughtfully, "Fedder distinctly says ing mouth-she felt an inrush of new dream; the noise of fires, the clang of was lost in the darkness, except for end of rare moths, a new one, blue, that he'll be at this date in the N'. life and marvelled at the power of re- ambulances, the raucous sound of riots, one glimpse she had of him emerging with graygambo of Bandi with his specimens of freshment in so neglected a simple. were suggested to her reluctant mem- from the door of a hut. At last he rebats and moths and entomological But after an hour's rocking on the ory by the actualities of former life, entered the roofless house, and by the firmly. the unmitigated, sun-filled sky above empty as a sacred symbol to a mind that he could leave her alone in a lions' to kill me with a queer knife. I liked

from above as if the shielding wing chapter of Genesis strode through her In sudden anger she slipped to the from one of my porters that I was a of a guardian angel had come between mind with the measure of Creation's edge of the cliff of clay, digging her bit of doctor, so they decided to take her and the excessive light. Shadows Titanic progress, as she threw out a heels into it as she had seen him do to me to a smallpox district, back of Galvin, M.D., possessed the first re- of the camels, the only shadows in the cramped and aching hand toward Gal- retard her passage down its precipitous Bandi. When we got to the town, I opening his strength had achieved at kill me, but a spring overflowed above

> "Darling," he said, and she knew lot of Moslems, and gagged me hafrom his voice that he exulted, "see if cause I frightened the townsmen, tell-

you can work out his gag." He put her hand on the protruding and how English arms ever win at pig. for we journey fast in desert mere light rather than a malign ele-Sybil turned pale. "But you wrote places and ham makes thirst." ment which conquers man's sense of will when water lies before them, and started back from a bearded, sweating feast to celebrate some defeat of our It cost Galvin a pang to renounce sight. Far in the glowing west the a sudden glare of red azalea leapt out face. Galvin laughed at her wild re-men somewhere, when you got there. cried in alarm, "and I felt we could his Somali pony, "Soda Mint," who was clearness of atmosphere and the bril- of the fallen night. It breathed on coil: "Just like me," he whispered, Well, even four days in chains seem hardly afford cables in case of mar- small and white, and in Madgeldar's liance of omnipotent sun still domin- Sybil as she passed, reflected for a mo- "but it's Fedder, good old Fedder! Do centuries. You're credits to your counriage—only in case of death—besides, sedentary routine avowedly good for ated, but in the east—grown snave ment in Baltuk's moonlit and perspir- get out that gag; he's chained and I'm try, you two," he ended thoughtfully. oh, Galvin, M.D., I did love the thought the digestion; but he still smiled hap- and tender with the first hues of night- ing face. Date palms clustered about filing my last link. Can't you see he's When Galvin's brief chronicle of all pily at Sybil. "Camels," he told her, fall-a fluff of cloud like the flowing them now, as they sped north and west, the Mullah's prisoner? Cheer-oh, Sybil, this reached Lord Midland with his ac-

"So that's what they're out dancing person sent for an under secretary, painfully few letters between its pages. the way to Bandi, and somehow sand swell upon the breast of the wild up- card. The whole world seemed a work- about?" she hissed fiercely, groping for "Why did we choose Galvin for Bus-'He was a proper good sort, that mis- doesn't tire them; therefore I choose land their camels turned suddenly to shop of Christmas and Easter special- his mouth with a sudden cessation of torah?" he inquired. well to remember him. He's to the Then they sat together on the ver- toward the east—as a beggar's cup is tising his Miltonian wings of purple the straining grip of her ride. Galvin spot more or less. He was the first

"Keep on sucking," he whispered, "and help me help Fedder walk."

At that the long creature beside them stirred. "Excuse the bite," he his breast with some half-executed de-"is the N'gambo of Bandi. My place sign of signing the cross upon it, and is with these camels, who must drink," reeling between them rushed for the They moved ever stiffly, numbed hand shattered door, through which the "We have no camel for him," Sybil

"Have we not?" Galvin inquired den illogical hillock, about whose min- grimly, while they pushed on in dark.

The hill they had toiled over in asstood bare and tenantless. Tomtoms heat fainter in the peopled background of deserted Bandi, and before them men, but full of meaning; its little hilltops tawny under the flood of a moon vin muttered. I know their damned at the full, its empurpled awales What is it for which they sheer impossibility that they could hold out until the well was reached. Pulses beat in Sybil's head and breath rushed in and out of her lungs, shakleaned on her intolerably and strange thoughts of wanting to lie down, of longing to die, shot like lightning through her mind.

Then Galvin paused, in the shadow in a leather bracelet and hiding it

The light caught Fedder's face and showed them his beard, the ends of to make part of his gag. The hairs stuck to his lips now and he picked them off painfully, borrowing Sybil's

When the came to Baltuk and the camela, Galvin spoke: "Go back to the N'gambo, Baltuk, and tell your Mullah that I dropped my watch in his village where I lifted his sick man. When it is found, bid him keep it, as a present for his kindness to me to-night. We

Baltuk stood staring at them before ing. Before I take you within the up the steep, scrub-bordered path. "We have now," Galvin continued, ever so think how else to get one."

Their flight was too serious for explanations or speech, but when the coral shades of dawn flared in the east

swift, "that the Mullah has had to give When she dared to look below her up his quarry. He had me four days." "Don't curse him," Fedder screamed.

"My wife, when you get round to it. stamps, but this sped down her neck The coolness kissed her cheek, but ently it stirred, she saw its black bulk We needed a parson, so we rescued

They pounded on the city's gate unopened for the day, and sent boys for

"That will do later," Sybil said

They made light of my beard, like a ing them how English love remembers

ceptance of his new post, that august

His face went white under the giar- and he goes in for botany—and ver- grew brisker, moving like a busy pres- in wild color from the hand of God, citedly. He was anxious to acquit him- Strange sounds, unlike speech, came the matter was put before them and



At first their camels rocked nauseatingly, but they presently settled into the defined rhythm of ships of the desert, and Sybil smiled whenever her mind was released from the adverse sensations of nausea, glare and chafed knees.

looked long at one another as lovers thick flannl blouse to protect her shoul- tion about them, racing their camels will. "Sybil," he said, in his deep ders from the blistering sun. Her col- over the hard-baked desert track to a heat-for all it was night-catching Scotch voice, "true love is as rare as lars and cuffs were the last word of space of green; the northern part of true beauty, and both are God's truth. fashion's glittering babble, but Galvin, the oasis of Tipi, at whose border is But who's to go fetch Fedder?" he M.D., ignored them, and spread a shawl Bandi and its fabled N'gambo, popu-

added presently detached being, also bronze, stood at

his shapely head.

his convenience."

at length. which betrayed increasing agitation, licious, freezing rills. She loved them her camel while furtive creatures of and Galvin prodded it, when it stirred terday's mail." bring me good news quickly. The sentially practical people. After the "don't let's wait for Mr. Fedder to in their fleeting, icy passage into the underbrush dashed between his again with the same cheerless noise of steamer's anchor has cried out in the first ecstatic interlude between a life come to us; let's go to him, will you?" remembered luxuries of Western liv- forelegs. She sang one snatch of a bondage.

ses, and things," she cried excited.

would ever be his except for the pur- smile of appreciation. "You had good what-not. Bandi isn't so far off, Sybil; hilly back of the great brute who sped But the peace of the desert was a new apparently increased bulk of the inert "And I saw a train of desert pose of dreams. He was still sitting courage to come alone," he observed, with luck and willing nags we'll get onward without an apparent thought thing, it was as simple and unusual as thing within it she knew that he was unmounted. I knew it was the Mullah at the breakfast table when the letters "but I wish you had had time to write there-h'm-about midnight. Can you for the burning strand beneath him, or holiness, it was as beside it and wondered what he did leading them, and although he tried

tore off a strip from the heavy paper "Still, I could have gone off to meet quisite of a useful medical man, he glowing expanse of all that treejess vin. and achieved her first conscious slope. Breathless, she stole to the tried to run away, so they took the you if I'd known, and I hate to think could bluff beyond the dreams of poker space, shone on the desert's dusky face enigram: "All great moments," she broken door and entered its jagged roof off my house that the sun might players; and when he heard that Sybil in lively mauve or a curious unbelieve- panted, "are trysts with God!" "The captain sent an Indian mechan- had never ridden, he behaved as if that able magenta; and the network of Galvin said in reply—but his answer- one kick, coming toward him timidly, me somewhere, and I was drenched knowledge were a great relief to his nameless growth, half vine, half fun- ing hand-clasp satisfied her-"Oh, don't alarmed at a grating sound she had with it and felt the sun but little.

> had a parson on the spot. There's a raim bin Saif, say to him we have need showed itself in sudden detail as the glut of variegated religions in Africa, of three camels and much water, also sun lost its overwhelming quality and dear girl, but parsons are almost un- the food of France in tins, but no salt became weakened by night's advance.

north of Tipi somewhere, but it will and while the noon hours passed in held for greed of gold from traveler's and agure in the ineffable ultramarine grunted, filing valiantly at the metal pawn to be advanced in the Bustorah be a hard ride on Somali ponies who scathing glare, from whose pulsing purse, or gush of water from a travel- of the star-punctured vault above them, link while Sybil's fingers pulled at a game don't know what leg-wise means. His agony of light a rough voice summoned er's bottle. Nothing human assailed it would have seemed but natural. strange, stone-like thing between Fedname is Fedder, the missionary man's, the faithful to their prayers. The wind their senses; the world was a picture Baltuk took their pending arrival except the matter want above them, this strange, stone-like thing between Fedname is Fedder, the missionary man's, the faithful to their prayers. The wind their senses; the world was a picture Baltuk took their pending arrival except the matter want above them.

"Bring her in," Galvin cried, "bring years; it healed homesickness and ing's white angle, blting at one an-linoleum and took the son from her spread the calm of absolute courage other and baring long, discolored teeth, neck's nape-bone dry. "What news heads on long and writhing necks, through him, for sometimes there's They were laden with water-bottles of of the evening?" he asked respectfully, brothers in simple natures like Gal- and fled while Galvin exclaimed at the in town which bears the much more sympathy in laughter than goatskin and tins of food incomparably to which Galvin—like a true Arab—will and fled while Galvin exclaimed at the in town which have responded "Good news it is seen by vin's. Within his mighty heart the strangeness of his day. He had been in tears. "I fancy you mean that I'm prepared in France, under which bur- responded, "Good news; it is cool by dens they knelt grousing between the God's mercy and a sea wind." A great "Swallow me whole," he answered depleted well and the tiled veranda. galety had wakened in their souls and with a boy's ardor, and their foolish Sybil had dressed for her wedding they looked at one another and laughed hands gripped each other, and they in a stout serge skirt of blue, with a like children in the soundless desola-

of white linoleum over her shoulders, lated with Arabs and their negroid Naked, bronze savages were carrying packing the nape of her neck with wet progeny, who ply desert trades and

her luggage over the veranda, and a sponges from his unsought surgery. speak in the language of poets of pracgaze with a valise well balanced upon mounted the kneeling camel and Bal- an Occidental boarding-house keeper, hand which rippled audibly down the tuk, naked now except for a loin-cloth or metaphysical considerations too "I brought a ring," Sybil confessed of "American" (unbleached muslin ample for the intelligence of a Spinoza with a shamed face, "but somehow I from Fall River) kicked her animal to find its way among them. day, I should like it lots better than dropping on his knees to pray God's of Tipi, and staggered along a steep hanging about with a nun or a sick favor for their journey with an adapta- and sandy track sharply upward to a town, I want to know why." nurse until Mr. Fedder packs up his bility usually and only ascribed to Am- verdant tableland, from which the desbeetles and comes over to marry us at erican women in diplomatic life. Gal- ert looked like a sullen sea, its sheen vin then leapt to the summit of his and color quenched in the growing bank. He kissed her as he left her

the doorway and looked straight into emphatically and the bare feet of sav- stiffened with tense hold on the one stars above her and the grotesque out- been good to be with him. the gray and tender eyes of Sybil Rae, ages slapped to and fro in the excite- great pommel about which the chuck- line of the camels' heads, silently picment of shifting luggage. An over- ling water bottles were packed as se- turing to herself the quest of the Magi the moon showed him to her as he grown chicken was chased from the curely as she herself. Baltuk had filled as they bore fragrance and gold to the scaled the wall of the roofless house veranda, making strange noises of pro- her hat's crown with a bit of ice pur- child of the world's desire—the human, furiously. Once within it he lighted "He's a man and lives up to his lights. test in its great haste and the increas- chased from the cook of the Barawa for helpless ultimatum of Hebraic ambi- many matches, bending over what Who's this lady?" ing heat. It was then that Sybil spoke the price of some surcharged post-tion. "My dear," she began in a voice into the regretted past in a few de- the thorns tore at her skirts and teased shift while chains clanked distinctly you.

"No," she said fearlessly, "hitherto, him and the desert-she found succor profane. Great verses from the first country and Islam's domain. gus, which breaks from the baked and be metaphysical, or I shan't think not heard before. known you were coming, I could have "Baltuk," he called, "go thou to Iph- sandy surface of this wilderness, you're happy."

"Tiar" (ready!) he said, as she tical matters too small for the mind of

"smell shocking and are rather slow, scarf of a veiled woman beckoned one while calla lilies grew closely bloom to and work." shelf near at hand, a big book with but they aren't thirsty and they know to the relief of darkness. And every bloom, like decorations on an Easter traverse, stretched its purple shadows ties, and had they seen an angel prac- fear and hands which trembled from

ing thatch of his deep red hair, but min. If we should send out for him ence in the drying heat and tyrannous painted in creation's dawn—before man self well and to have Galvin say he from him while she worked, but at last they broke up—after cheering.